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A NARRATIVE

OF AN

Attempt Made by the French of Canada

UPON

THE MOHAQUE'S COUNTRY

Reproduced in *facsimile* from the first edition
printed by WILLIAM BRADFORD, 1693

With an Introductory Note by
ADELAIDE R. HASSE

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Bayard's Journal: the First Book Printed in New York

By A. R. HASSE

ON November 12, 1698, Lord Bellomont, then Governor of the colony of New York, wrote to the Lords of Plantations, "In the first place the printed accounts of his great exploits against the French which he published and sent into England I cannot possibly get one of them for love nor money, and I am sure he made it his business to get up all the printed copies, which is an argument with me of his consciousnesse that he had imposed a romance instead of a true narrative, and I undertake to prove the French never attacked our frontier towns during his Government." Lord Bellomont was writing of a copy of the account printed in facsimile in the following pages. Nor has a copy been seen, to be recognized, from that day until November 11, 1902, when one was discovered by the writer among Governor Fletcher's papers in the archives of the Public Record Office, London. Here it has reposed since it was forwarded by Governor Fletcher in 1693, for the copy found bears this endorsement, written in a contemporary hand, " Rec'd Sept. 26, 1693, from Coll. Fletcher."

It is not alone reasons of State, one is led to suspect, which illuminate Lord Bellomont's antipathy for his predecessor, but, as the above quotation would indicate, he was not a little piqued by the precedent Fletcher had established of the fairly modern strenuous pursuit of duty as he conceived it. For, whatever doubt there may be as to the result or the motive, either, of his undertakings, it is certain that Fletcher had no regard for time or place when an appeal to his adventurous sympathies was involved.

Governor Fletcher has been called a soldier of fortune. Lord Bellomont was of another school. The former delighted in the vicissitudes of adventure attendant at the time upon the performance of the duties of the executive of the colony. The latter rather shrank from them. Writing of his journey to Albany in the midst of the Winter of 1693, the very journey the authenticity of the account of which his successor discredits in the paragraph already quoted, Fletcher says that he landed at Albany before noon, having ridden to Schenectady by night "upon a very ill unshod horse." Bellomont, on the other hand, " imbarques at Albany [in the height of the Summer of 1698] in the midst of a fit of the gout, by which means, and a cold taken upon Hudson's river, I had like to have dyed when I came to Albany." Governor Fletcher's movements from the time, almost, that he lands on the American shores until the Summer of 1693, are, however, too closely associated with the beginnings of the history of printing in New York, to be disregarded in a statement of the printing, disappearance and reappearance of what is claimed to be the first book to issue from a press in New York.

Within less than two weeks from the day on which Governor Fletcher took the oath of office he had dissolved, by proclamation, the first Assembly of the colony, convened by his predecessor, Governor Sloughter, and then sitting in the fourth session. About ten days thereafter, we find him writing, under date of September 23, 1692, to Lord Nottingham, " I am now going with all the secrecy I can to take a view of the Frontiers." By the tenth of the following month he has returned,

and at once engages himself in the business of calling a new Assembly, the first under his administration. Writs having been issued for a choice of representatives returnable on October 24, 1692, the governor, in submitting his written address to the House on that day, reports to that body on his recent journey to Albany, in these words: "I have visited the ffrontiers and put them into some posture of defence for this present winter. . . ." Having thus, apparently to their satisfaction, taken all the necessary precautions to fortify themselves against encroachments from the North, the governor, with the Council and House, proceeded to the consideration of equally important business, namely, the liquidation of the debts of the colony.

On November 14, 1692, Governor Fletcher adjourned the Assembly to meet again in second session, on Monday, March 20, 1693. Then suddenly, in the dead of the winter of 1693, on February 14, there arrives an express in New York, directed to Governor Fletcher by Major Ingoldesby in Albany three days before. The French and their Indians are approaching to the number of 550. Upon the coming of the news Ingoldesby had, at once, set out to raise forces with which to repel the anticipated attack. Provisions had been collected and sent to Schenectady. The farmers had been called in, and the garrison at Schenectady had been strengthened, but, after having levied upon all possible resources, Ingoldesby could muster but 600 men. His Indians were becoming apprehensive, which added to his anxiety, and he ends by asking immediate aid from New York of Governor Fletcher.

It is the account of how this aid was rendered which constitutes the opening narrative of the little book printed in facsimile in the following pages, commonly known as "Bayard's Journal," and sometimes referred to as "The Lost Bradford Journal." The narrative is written in the past tense, and is signed by Nicholas Bayard and Charles Lodowick. It is followed by several corroborative accounts, by laudatory addresses of Indian chiefs, and a highly eulogistic address of the mayor and aldermen of Albany. This fact rather forces the impression that it was originally compiled at Fletcher's instigation more with the view of serving immediate ends with the authorities in England, than of producing an account with any historic pretensions. As to its political intentions, Bellomont's surmise is probably true, but his added insinuation, that it was, after all, a fiction on Fletcher's part, is controverted by the French accounts of the expedition.

The last paragraph of the opening narrative fixes Fletcher's return to New York, namely, the Thursday following Monday, the 27th of February, 1693, or March 2, 1693. This is further substantiated by the proceedings of the Council on March 3, 1693.* "His Excellency gave a short account of his progresse in the Expedicõn to Albany & the ffrontiers against the ffrench what detachments & stores of ammunicõn & provisions he had sent out from time to time as they did arrive and were in readynesse what successe and victory was obtained upon the Enemy being drove out of the Countrey with considerable losse dropping and leaving behinde most of the prisoners they had taken at the 3 castles of the Mohoggs who are since returned: Of his Treaty with the Indians at Albany afterwards and that he had made haste to send home the Detached men to their familyes & businesse and returned himself yesterday morning.

"All this is well approved off And the Council Did return his Excell. great Expressions of thankfullnesse for his Great fategue prudence and diligency mencõning that they have not seen the like Expedicõn formerly in this province. Ordered His Excell. speech to the Indians their answer & Propositions An Address of the Mayor Recorder & Comonalty of the City of Albany to His Excell. and the Journall of the proceedings of Maj'r Schuyler and the forces on the ffrontiers since the alarm of the ffrench having invaded Our Province be read. . . ."

On March 8, just six days after his return from the expedition which forms the subject of the narrative, we find him writing to Mr. Blathwayt "I was called from my last [letter to you] by the accts of an in fall [*sic*] the French and their Indians had made, on the outskirts of this province, of which I send you a narrative. . . . I send this to Boston in hopes of a passage from thence if Sr. William Phips do not intercept it." Here the use of the word narrative might seem to indicate that it was

* Council Minutes, MS., v. 6, p. 174.

A JOURNAL OF THE Late Actions OF THE French at Canada.

WITH

The Manner of their being Repuls'd, by His Excellency, *Benjamin Fletcher*, Their Majeſties Governour of *New-York*.

Impartially Related by Coll. Nicholas Reyard, *and Lieutenant Coll.* Charles Lodowick, *who attended His Excellency, during the whole Expedition.*

To which is added,

I. An Account of the preſent State and Strength of *Canada*, given by Two *Dutch Men*, who have been a long Time Priſoners there, and now made their Eſcape.
II. The Examination of a *French* Priſoner.
III. His Excellency *Benjamin Fletcher*'s Speech to the *Indians*.
IV. An Addreſs from the Corporation of *Albany*, to His Excellency, Returning Thanks for His Excellency's early Aſſiſtance for their Relief.

Licenſed, Sept. 11th 1693. Edward Cooke.

London, Printed for *Richard Baldwin*, in *Warwick-Lane*, 1693

a printed copy of the American edition which Fletcher was enclosing, and yet this, from subsequent developments, would not seem to have been possible. For, if the print, which we now know to be in existence, was in type on March 8, 1693, then it was either printed in Philadelphia, or Bradford must have introduced a press of some sort subsequent to his release from prison for participation in the Keithian controversy, and before Fletcher's first attendance at the council meeting of the Province of Pennsylvania.

The writer has no evidence that either of these suppositions is even probable; rather on the contrary. Bradford's type, which had been taken from him when he was put into prison, had not been returned to him on April 27, 1693, for on that day, the second of the first session of the council of the province of Pennsylvania under Fletcher's administration, Fletcher, "Upon reading the Petition of William Bradford, printer, directed to his Excell. wherein he setts forth that in September Last his tooles and Letters were Seized by order of the late Rulers, for printing some books of Controversie, and are still kept from him, to the great hurtt of his family, and prays Reliefe," ordered that Bradford's tools be restored to him. On the other hand, a printed copy must have been seen in London before the one now in the Public Record Office, because the endorsement in a contemporary hand on this copy, viz., "Received from Coll. Fletcher, 26 Sept., 1693," is of a date later than the license date of the London edition, viz. September 11, 1693, and moreover, there is the reference to the American edition in the preface of the London edition.

What seems a plausible solution is this, that Fletcher sent, early in March, a manuscript copy of his narrative to the Lords of Plantations, being the copy referred to in his letter to Blathwayt, already quoted, and that, so soon as the restoration of Bradford's tools had been effected, Bradford made arrangements to proceed to New York, and that printing was actively begun soon after Fletcher's return on June 5, 1693.

The date usually fixed as the date of the beginning of printing in New York, viz., April 10, 1693, is assumed from the date and phraseology of the first warrant for Bradford's salary as government printer: "salary for six months ended on the 10th preceding," the warrant being dated on October 12, 1693. It was, however, on the very day commonly accepted as Bradford's active inauguration as government printer that Fletcher received notice of the command to "travail into Pennsilvania," and in pursuance of which he did actually depart on April 24, and remained absent until June 5, 1693. We have shown that Bradford's tools were not ordered to be returned to him until April 27, and we believe it likely that, immediately upon the order having been carried out Bradford repaired to New York, got his press in readiness during the month of May, and, upon Fletcher's return, began running off the acts passed in 1692, the April 29, 1693, proclamation, the address of the citizens of Philadelphia, and the Narrative, as rapidly as the type would allow. We believe this to have been more likely than that any printing was done during Fletcher's absence from New York.

On the other hand, it is no less improbable that Fletcher and Bradford may have made the return journey from Philadelphia together, for, aside from the means of exploitation which Fletcher undoubtedly foresaw in the establishment of a press near the seat of government, he was probably drawn to Bradford as a man, the cause of his solicitude being the latter's difficulties with the Quakers. Fletcher says of himself in this regard that he was "a man of arms, and not of the Quaker principle."

While it is true that on March 23, 1693, it is recorded (Council Minutes, MS., v. 6 : 181), that inducements were offered to a printer to come to New York, and that the entry, in a list of the officials of New York, dated April 20, 1693, "Allowed to a printer pr. añn: £40,"* indicates that Bradford's appointment as government printer to New York had actually taken place before his tools were restored to him by the Council of Pennsylvania, the point at issue is not the date of Bradford's inauguration as government printer, but the date when the government printer began to operate his press in New York. It is this latter date which we claim is affected by the movements of Governor Fletcher.

To account for the extra copy of the Narrative in England, we may assume that

*N. Y. Colon. Docs. v. 4 : 25.

an early copy of the American edition was sent over privately by Fletcher, and that the London edition was printed, not from manuscript, but from the American print. We are led to the latter conclusion by the similarity of the typographical disposition of the contents in the two editions, and from the précis in four paragraphs on the title-page of the London edition, which is an exact duplicate of that appearing on the title-page of the American edition. The introduction of Fletcher's name in the title of the London edition would suggest his anxiety to strengthen his political position in the colonies by popular exploitation at home. His name, it will be observed, does not appear in the title of the American edition.

The copy now in the Public Record Office, London, did not leave America until the end of July, 1693, for in the same package with it were received letters dated July 31, 1693, endorsed, like the present copy of the Narrative, "Recd 26 Sept 1693 from Coll Fletcher." Having already provided his superior officers with a manuscript copy, Fletcher was probably more concerned that a printed copy should now come before the public than before the Lords of Plantations.

The tentative claim put forward by the late Dr. Moore in 1889, in favor of *Bayard's Journal* as being the first book printed in New York, may now, by the discovery of the existence of a copy of the book, be established, and whatever distinction has been awarded the 1694 law book, as being the earliest book printed in New York, must now be awarded to *Bayard's Journal.*

In the opening sentences of this account, the statement was made that no copy of the *Journal* had been seen to be recognized until the discovery of the present copy. The inferred reservation relates to the Calendar of Documents, etc., published in 1847 by the Pennsylvania Historical Society, in which the address made by the citizens of Philadelphia to Governor Fletcher is recorded as being deposited in the Public Record Office, and in the same volume in which the present copy of *Bayard's Journal* was found.

A NARRATIVE

Of an Attempt made by the

French of Canada

UPON THE

MOHAQUES COUNTRY

Being *Indians* under the Protection of their Majesties Government of *New-York*.

To which is added,

1. An Account of the present State and Strength of *Canada*, given by two *Dutch-men*, who have been Prisoners there, and now made their escape.
2. The Examination of a *French* Prisoner.
3. His Excellency *Benjamin Fletcher's* Speech to the *Indians*.
4. The Answer of the five Nations of the *Mohaques* to his Excellency.
5. Proposals made by the four chief Sachims of the five Nations, to his Excellency, And his Excellency's Reply thereto.
6. An Address from the Corporation of *Albany* to his Excellency, returning Thanks for his Excellency's early Assistance for their Relief, *&c.*

A Journal kept by Coll. *Nicholas Beyard* and Lieut. Coll. *Charles Lodwick*, who attended his Excellency in this Expedition.

SUnday, the 12th of *February*, 1692. about ten a Clock at night, an express from Lieut. Coll. *Beekman* of *Ulster* County, gave his Excellency an account of Advice from *Albany* of the *French* and *Indians*, consisting of 550 being within 20 miles of *Schenectady* on the 8th instant, an hour before day, ready to fall upon the two first Castles of the *Mohaques*.

Whereupon his Excellency ordered the Collonol of the Militia of the City of *New-York* to draw out his Regiment the next Morning

Munday the 13th, Orders were sent to Coll. *Courtland* of *Kings County*, and Coll. *Willet* of *Queens County*, to detatch out of their Regiments a hundred and fifty men, to be forth-with ready to imbarque at the Ferry.

About

About eight a Clock in the Morning the City Regiment being under Arms, his Excellency on Horſe-back, at the head of the Regiment, demanded, *Why were willing to follow him to the Frontiers againſt the Enemy?* They unanimouſly threw up their Hats, and cryed, *One and all.* Upon which the Collonol was ordered to detach 150 of the fitteſt men, to be under the Command of 3 Captains, with their Subalterns, ready at the firſt Beat of Drum, and diſmiſſed the Regiment, and ordered all Sloops for Tranſportation to be ſecured. About ten a Clock his Excellency did ſend the expreſs forward to Coll. *Beekman*, with orders to get all the Horſes in the County of *Ulſter* together in readineſs, to carry his Excellency and the Detachments from *Kingſtone* to *Albany* by Land, in caſe the River was not open, and to forward any Confirmation of the News to his Excellency.

Tueſday the 14th, by break of day came an expreſs from Major *Ingoldsby*, confirming the former News, and that the two firſt Caſtles were taken by the *French* and *Indians*. Whereupon eight Sloops were ordered, with neceſſary Proviſions and Amunition to go round the Fort, and be ready to ſail, and the Detachment of the City Regiment did immediately imbarque. About four a clock afternoon the Tide offering, his Excellency attended with the Officers of the Detatchments, and ſeveral Volunteers, did imbarque and ſet ſail.

Friday the 17, about 9 a clock his Excellency arrived at *Albany*, being 50 leagues diſtant from *New-York*, with five of the Sloops, having met with much Ice in the River, which gave ſome difficulty; the reſt arrived towards evening.

As ſoon as they came on ſhore, his Excellency ordered Capt. *Schuyler* to march 50 of the men for *Schenectady*; about 11 a clock his Excellency followed, with 26 Horſe, leaving Inſtructions with Coll *Beyard* to forward all the reſt of the Detachments, as they did [illegible] without loſs of time, together with the Amunition and Proviſions.

About 3 a clock afternoon, his Excellency met Major *Ingoldsby* about 8 miles from *Schenectady*, on his return for *Albany*, having gone from thence to viſit *Schenectady* that morning. His Excellency arrived at *Schenectady*, being 20 miles from *Albany*, about 5 a clock. About 9 a clock at night Capt. *Schuyler*, with his men arrived, and found Proviſions & Quarters in readineſs for his men

Saturday morning the 18th, by break of day the men were ready to be tranſported over the River, but a violent Storm did hinder their Tranſportation till afternoon, and ſundry Indian Women loaden with Proviſions, were ſent along with them. This day about Noon Major *Merrit*, with the reſt of the City Detachment, did arrive at *Schenectady*, and were immediately furniſhed with Quarters, Amunition and Proviſions, ready to march next morning.

Sunday the 19th, by break of day, the reſt of the Forces that were fit to march, did attempt to get over, but great Quantities of looſe Ice did hinder, till about ten a clock the Ice ſettling, they got over it on foot, which in two hours was diſperſed, and the River open again. This partly carried a further ſupply of Proviſions and Amunition.

Munday the 20th, by break of day, thoſe of the City Detachments, who were not able to march the day before, being refreſhed, his Excellency detached from the Garriſon of *Schenectady*, ſo many of them as made 42 who did immediately march with 13 Horſes loaden with Proviſion and Amunition.

About 2 a clock afternoon arrived at *Schenectady* Capt. *Stillwell*, with the Detachment of *Kings County*, conſiſting of 50 men, who were ordered to refreſh themſelves till next morning, and three Horſes with Proviſions ordered to be in readineſs to attend them.

Tueſday,

Tueſday the 21ſt, the Horſes being carried over the River, and the men ready to to be tranſported, came an expreſs from Major *Schuyler*, giving intelligence of his being near at hand on his Return, who arrived about 4 a clock afternoon, upon which the men and Horſe were remanded, and ſent back to their own homes. There marched by his Excellency's order (to joyn Major *Schuyler*) ſince his arrival 208. effective men, beſides Guides and Carriers of Supplyes, with conſiderable quantities of Proviſions and Amunition, which are ſince returned.

Wedneſday the 22d his Excellency returned for *Albany*, accompanied with Major *Schuyler*, and ſeveral of the Forces come from purſuit of the Enemy, and arrived about 3 a clock afternoon, much diſſatisfied at the Enemies eſcape.

His Excellency did order Major *Schuyler*, with ſome other Officers, to give the Journal of their Action in the Woods.

At 4 a clock arrived Coll. *Willet* at *Albany*, with 120 men from *Queens County*, who were next morning remanded home to their Habitations, together with the reſt of the Detachments. At night his Excellency ſent to call thoſe *Indians* that were returned from the Fight, to meet him next morning at *Albany*.

Thurſday the 23d, a Proclamation iſſued, requiring all the out Farmers to draw themſelves into Neighbourhoods, for their better ſecurity againſt the ſculking Enemy, and to fortify with Stockadoes.

Fryday the 24th, his Excellency received an Addreſs from the Corporation of *Albany*, congratulating his ſafe return, and returning Thanks for his early Aſſiſtance with his Perſonal Preſence for their Relief, *&c.*

Saturday the 25th, the *Indians* being arrived laſt night, and giving their attendance, this morning his Excellency, being accompanied with the Magiſtrates of this City, and the Souldiers and Militia in Arms, came to the City Hall, and made his Speech to the *Indians*, which was interpreted to them by the Interpreteſs *Helle*. In the afternoon they gave their Anſwer to his Excellency by the ſame Interpreteſs

Sunday the 26th, about 8 a clock in the morning, four of the chief Sachims came to his Excellency, with ſome further Propoſitions, which he immediately anſwer'd to their Satisfaction.

Munday the 27th, his Excellency cauſed a Proclamation to be publiſhed, prohibiting the ſelling of Rum to the *Indians*, and did imbarque for *New-York*, where he arrived *Thurſday* morning following, and was received with ſuch Expreſſions of Joy and Thankfulneſs, as the place could afford.

Nicholas Beyard, Coll.
Charles Lodw.ck, Lieut. Coll.

IN Obedience to his Excellency's Command, *Peter Schuyler* Mayor, with the other Officers under his Command, give this following Account of their proceedings ſince the firſt Intelligence of the Enemy's deſcent into the Country of the *Mohaques*.

February the 8th, being *Wedneſday*, about 2 a clock afternoon, we had the alarm from *Schenectady*, that the *French* and their *Indians* had taken the *Mohaques* Caſtles; ſoon after we had the News, that a young man, called *Jan Baptiſt van Eps*, (taken at *Schenectady* 3 years a go) was run over from the *French*, as they were to attack the firſt Caſtle of the *Mohaques*, and come to *Schenectady*, who related, that the *French* were 350 *Chriſtians* and 200 *Indians*. Major *Ingoldesby* ſent forth with his Warrants, to command in the Farmers of Capt. *Genits* and Capt. *Tunis*'s Compa-

nies

nies of Militia. This night Lieut. *John Schuyler* and *Cornet Abeel* with 55 Horſe marched to *Schenectady*.

February 9. *Cornet Abeel* came expreſs from *Schenectady*, and deſired that Major *Schuyler*, or Major *Weſſels* might be ſent thither to pacifie the *Indians*, who were enraged that no *Chriſtians* went out in purſuit of the Enemy. Upon which Major *Schuyler* at his own requeſt was permitted to go that Evening. As ſoon as Major *Schuyler* arrived there, he ſent out ſcouts to ſpy the Forts, and the Enemies motion, and withal to go & warn the *Tionondoge Indians* of the Enemies coming, but they having gone 12 miles, returned, about 12 a clock at night, ſaying, they could not get over the River.

Feb. 10. Major *Schuyler* ſent Lieut. *Johannes Schuyler* and Lieut. *John Sanders*, and ſix more to view the *Mohaques* Fort that was poſſeſſed by the Enemy, who brought news, that the *French* were in both the Forts; of all which he gave advice to Major *Ingoldsby* at *Albany*.

Feb. 11. Major *Schuyler* ſent 10 *Chriſtians* and 40 *Indians* to lie near the Enemy, and to watch their motion, who made a ſmall Fort to retreat into, and ſo ſpyed what the Eenemy did.

Feb. 12. News was brought to *Schenectady* by ſome of the ſaid Scouts, that they had heard firing at the *Mohaques* Forts, which was ſuppoſed the *Tionondoge Indians* againſt the *French*; which News Major *Schuyler* ſent forward to *Albany*. Whereupon Major *Ingoldsby* detached about 200 men out of the ſeveral Companies of the Militia Fuzileers and Troop, commanded by Capt. *Peter Matthews*, Capt. *Arent Schuyler*, Capt. *Benj. Phips*, Capt. *Kihad van Renſlaer*, and Capt *Tho. Gartin*, who arrived at *Schenectady* about 2 a clock afternoon, and joyned Major *Schuyler*: The Waggons with Bread arrived that night. This day our Scouts brought us the News, that the *French* were there ſtill, & that they had alſo cut off the third Caſtle of the *Mohaques*, called, *Tionondoge*, and that none of the upper *Indians* were come down; all which was advertiſed to Major *Ingoldsby* forthwith, and Major *Schuyler* ſent to him for Orders to march.

Feb. 13. This morning having received no anſwer of the ſaid Expreſs, Major *Schuyler* ſent another for Orders to march, and being preſſed with the *Indians*, who threatened elſe to deſert us, was forced to march the men over the River without Orders, which came about 4 a clock in the afternoon, when moſt of the men were got over the River. This very time we had News by our out Scouts, that the *French* had burnt the *Mohaques* three Caſtles, and were marched away, which Major *Schuyler* ordered Lieut. *Young* to ſignifie to Major *Ingoldsby*. We marched 12 miles that evening, being 273 *Chriſtians*. In the night about 10 a clock one of our Scouts came in, and told us, that 600 of our uppermoſt *Indians* were coming down; Major *Schuyler* forthwith ſent the ſame Meſſenger, that brought us the News, to Major *Ingoldsby*, and deſired that Proviſion and Amunition ſhould be ſent after us, not knowing what the *Indians* might have occaſion for.

Feb 14. About 1 or 2 a clock in the morning we decamped, and marched to the ſmall Fort which was made by our 50 Scouts, about ſix a clock in the morning, where we had advice, that the Enemy was not above eight mile from us; upon which Lieut. *Harmt van Slyk* and two Indians were ſent to diſcover the Enemy, who brought us word, they were marched; two Indians came to us with News, that there were 300 of our upper Indians within 20 mile of us, whereupon we ſent two Indians back to haſten them up, and to let them know we were there to joyn them. We ſent out three *Mohaques* to diſcover the Enemy; about 4 a clock in the afternoon we decamped, and marched to the place where the Enemy had lain the night before.

Feb. 15.

Feb. 15. In the morning two of our *Indian* Scouts returned (the third being run over to the Enemy) who brought us news they had ſeen the Enemy within ten miles. Our Indians came up with us about 12 a clock, being 290 Men and Boys, ſome Armed, and ſome without Arms, a Conſult being hadd we marched about 4 a clock, and encamped all together, having marched about ten miles that afternoon. This night a Conſult was held, and Spyes ſent to diſcover the Enemy.

Feb. 16. We marched early in the morning, and having gone ten miles, found the place where the Enemy had lain two nights before; we halted there, an *Oneyde Indian* came from the Enemy, being ſent to our Indians to debauch them over to the *French*, which Meſſenger we did not think fit to ſend back, being one of the Priſoners taken at *Tionondoge*. We ſent an expreſs to Major *Ingoldsby* to acquaint him that the Enemy had built a Fort, and were reſolved to fight us, and ſent for ſupplies of Proviſion, Amunition and Men. We marched on toward the Enemy, and met with one of our wounded Indians, who informed, that the Enemy ſtayed for us in a Fort; upon which we marched about two miles, where a Chriſtian Boy (*Arnaut* the Interpreters Son) came to us, who had been three years a Priſoner among the *French*, he gave account, that the Enemy were about 6 or 700 men, and within three miles, we marched forward to find ſome convenient place to encamp, and to fortifie our ſelves from the Enemy that night; we had Scouts out (Chriſtians and Indians) all night to watch the Enemies motion, who brought account in the morning that we were within a mile of their Fort.

Feb. 17. We decamped, and marched toward the Enemy, with Scouts before us, and did not take a direct line, but went round, for fear of an Ambuſcade, and came in ſight of their Fort about eight a clock in the morning, where our Scouts came and ſhewed us where the Enemy lay, upon which all the Officers were commanded to take their Poſts, and make ready to engage, being 250 Chriſtians, and 290 Indians, the Enemy ſeeing us, gave three Huzza's, which we anſwered with as many, and as loud as they, and made the Woods ring; our Indians went to work to fall Trees and fortifie, but the Enemy ſallyed out immediately, we engaged them, and beat them back into their Fort, our Indians fell to work again, and deſired our Chriſtians to help, which they did; the Enemy ſallyed out with all their ſtrength a ſecond time, encouraging their men, crying, *They Run, we will cut them all off, and get their Proviſions:* We received them briskly, & beat them back into their Fort, with the loſs of ſeveral of their men: Our men fell to work again about the Fort; the Enemy ſallyed out the third time, but were as well repulſed as before, and beat into their Fort, with conſiderable loſs, our Indians bringing ſeveral of their Heads and Scalps into our Fort; after this the Enemy was quiet, and we finiſhed our Fort; as ſoon as this Skirmiſh was over, we ſent an Expreſs to Major *Ingoldsby*, to acquaint him what had paſſed, praying him to haſten our Recruits with Proviſion and Amunition, for that greateſt part of our men had not had any Proviſion in two days time; we ſent out Scouts of Chriſtians and Indians all that night, to diſcover the Enemy's motion, and lay all night in our Fort; it was extream bad cold ſnowy weather.

Feb 18. Being cold ſtormy Weather, and Snow, inſomuch that we could ſcarce ſee any Tract, our Scouts came in this Morning, which gave account that the Enemy were in their Fort, ſome being ſtill popping at our People. About nine a clock an Indian that left the *French* in their Fort told us, *He thought the Enemy would Retreat, that they were packing up their Baggage.* Upon which Major *Schuyler* ordered the Captains to draw out their men to march round the Enemy's Fort to ſtop them; but the ſame time had an account they were fled; he commanded the Officers

cers to purſue them, and to hinder their Retreat, till Men and Proviſions came up, but the Men wanting Proviſion, refuſed to march; the Officers, with 60 Chriſtians and ſome Indians purſued the Enemy till they had made a ſmall Fortification, but the Officers not having men to engage them, nor to make a Fort, returned back, leaving two Officers with 40 men and 100 Indians to watch their motion, expecting our Proviſion to come up that night.

Feb. 19. About 7 a clock in the morning we had an account, that our Proviſions were near at hand, which came up to us about nine or ten a Clock, with 80 men, commanded by Capt. *Simms*; the Proviſions being immediately diſtributed among the men, thoſe that were firſt ſerved, were commanded away after the Enemy, with five Biskets a man: About four a clock, the van being commanded by Capt. *Peter Matthews* and Capt. *Arent Schuyler*, came up near the rear of the Enemy, the Scouts telling us, the Enemy were within leſs than an Engliſh mile; we deſired the Indians to joyn with us to fall upon their Rear, till the reſt of our men came up, ſending in the mean time to our People, to march up in all haſte, but the Indians halted, and could not be perſwaded to march, the *Mohaques* being moſt unwilling, becauſe the Enemy had dropt ſeveral Priſoners, who told them, that if they purſued them, they would kill all their Wives and Children, whom they had Priſoners; after an hours Conſultation of the Indians, moſt of our men came up, we marched with all ſpeed, thinking to overtake the Enemy before they got to the River ſide, but there being a flake of Ice in one part of the River, and all open above and below, the Enemy got over before we got up: We encamped by the River ſide that Night.

Feb. 20. In the morning Major *Schuyler* reſolved to march over the River, to purſue the Enemy, ordering the Officers to get the men ready for that purpoſe, but many of the men being wearied with fatigue, their Shoes being quite wore out, and Proviſions ſcarce, were not able to make any further purſuit. But that which did moſt of all diſcourage us, was, that the *Indians* had great averſeneſs to purſue or fall upon the Enemy, becauſe of their Wives and Children; whereupon we marched back.

In this Engagement we loſt four private Souldiers, & four Indians, two Officers and twelve Chriſtians, and Indians wounded; and we had an account by ſome of our Indian Priſoners that made their eſcape, that we killed of the Enemy 33, whereof we found but 27, among which was their Commandant, one Captain, and two others Officers, with two of their commanding Indians, and 26 wounded. We reſcued between forty and fifty Priſoners.

Since their Retreat we are informed by divers of the Priſoners, who come home daily, that all our men Priſoners except five, have made their eſcape, or are ſet at liberty, and but few Women and Children left with them, not being able to carry the Priſoners off, by reaſon of their wounded men, whereof they carry thirteen.

As we did not hear, ſo we could not expect that your Excellency ſhould in ſo ſhort time (at that ſeaſon of the Year) be advanced ſo near us as to *Schenectady*, and that ſo conſiderable Supplies could be ſo ſpeedily got together: And we obſerved it was no ſmall encouragement to our *Indians* to ſee your Excellency at the head of 300 men, beſides Volunteers, for our Relief, and theirs; of which we are all ſenſible.

Peter Schuyler, Major.

Peter Matthews, Capt. } *K. V. Renſelaer*, Capt.
Arent Schuyler, Capt. } *Benj. Phipps*, Capt.

The Examination of *Andries Caſparus*, & *Cornelius Claeſe van den Bergh*, both *Dutchmen*, taken before his Excellency *Benj. Fletcher*, Governour, who have made their eſcape from *Canada*, who were Priſoners there, and have been 32 days by the way.

THe ſaid *Cornelius Claeſe van den Bergh* was taken at *Canactagiere* in *July* 1691. a little before the Mayor, *Peter Schuyler* went to *Canada*, and *Andres Caſpares* who was gone out with ſome of our River Indians laſt fall to hunt, and withal to ſee how the far Natians, called, the *Turchtuicks* lived, was taken laſt *March* by a party of *Turchtuicks* and *Davaganhaes*, and brought to a Caſtle where ſaid Indians lived, and was there to be burnt and eat by ſaid Indians, from whence he run away that very day he received his cruel Sentence, and was ſixteen days in the Woods, and came to a place where *Monſieur Tontys* People were making a Fort, and the ſaid *Monſ. Tonty* and *Monſ. La Free* brought him to *Canada*.

The ſaid Priſoners ſay, that the *French* informed them, that there were ten Ships come from *France* with Proviſion and Amunition, but no men, ſcarce ſo many as could ſail their Ships, that they had brought 120000 pound of Flower, and 160000 pound of Pork, alſo ſome great Guns, and two Morter Pieces.

That there is a Fort built below *Quebeck*, in a narrow Paſſage where Ships muſt paſs; the *French* ſpoke of two Forts (but an *Engliſh man* told him only of one Fort) and twelve Guns in each Fort. They had 1600 Souldiers three year ago, of which 1000 are killed and taken; this is beſides 200 Inhabitants who are killed.

The ſaid *Cornelis* has lived all this while at the Governour of *Mont Royal* his Houſe, called *Monſieur d' Cellier*, & judges there are about 400 men in *Mont Royal* with Souldiers and all, altho' the ſaid Monſieur *d' Cellier* often told them, they had 700 men there.

The Inhabitants ſeem to be much wearied of the War, and cry much for Peace, and pray that God would turn the Prince of *Orange*'s heart, and incline him to make Peace, for it is his fault that all theſe Miſeries are come upon them.

There is a man come over with thoſe Ships to be Monſ. *d' Cellier*'s Cook, who ſays, that the *Engliſh* had fallen upon the *French* Fleet unawares, and done them ſome damage, and purſued them to *Breſt*, and if they had come but a quarter of an hour ſooner, they had taken *Breſt*, and all the Province of *Brittanine*

The *French* have loſt this Summer 37 *French* and 70 *Indians* at one time, going up the Falls to *Ottawawa*, and at a ſecond time they loſt 30 *French* the ſame way, and often times ſmaller Parties killed by our *Indians*.

The ſaid *Andres Caſparus* ſays further, that when he came to the *French* Houſe, after he had eſcaped from the Indians, the *French* tyed him two dayes, but he being ſo lean and mager, having had no food all that time, but 11 Eggs he found in a Turkies Neſt, and 6 Swan eggs he found in another place, ſo that the French did unty him. About eight days after *Monſieur Tonty* came (who is in the manner of a Governour among them) and he went down with ſaid *Tonty* to *Ottawawa*, which was 200 Leagues from that place; the ſaid *Tonty* depatched about 25 or 30 great Canows

Canows full of Beaver to *Canada*; and after they had been two days from *Ottawawa*, they met one *Monſieur de Lille*, who had been out a skulking upon the great River, and had taken two Priſoners, who told that 700 of our Indians lay at a carrying place on the great River, waiting for the *Ottawawa* Company, and 200 were near *Mont Royal* Iſland upon the ſame deſign. They ſtopt ſaid Company till *M. Tonty* ſent for them back, and reſolved to go to *Canada* with 200 men Indians and French without Beavers, in which Company the ſaid *Andres Caſparus* came, being reckoned 300 Leagues between *Ottawawa* and *Canada*. As ſoon as the ſaid *Andries* came to *Mont Royal*, *M. Tonty* delivered him to the Governour of *Mont Royal*, who put him in Priſon four days, and then releaſed him to work in his Houſe; but as ſoon as he got out, conſulted with his Comrade *Cornelis* to run away, which they did accordingly. After they had been about a moneth or five weeks together in ſaid *M. de Celliers* houſe, the ſaid *Andries* ſays, he ſaw a great prodigious Quantity of Beavers at *Ottawawa*; an Inhabitant of *Canada*, called *Jaques de Tallie*, told him, he had 3000 Beaver of his own there, and that there was as many Beavers now in *Ottawawa* as would load 200 Canows to *Canada*, and each Canow generally holds nine or ten hundred Beavers; which the ſaid *Andries* doth credibly believe to be true, there being none gone from thence to *Canada* in a great while.

There is a Fort at *Ottawawa* burnt by accident this ſpring, where *Monſ. la Free* had the Command, wherein was great ſtore of Beavers and Peltry, and ſeveral Goods and Merchandize.

This is the Account the ſaid two Priſoners gave at Albany *the 4th of* October, 1692. *and is entred down from their Mouthes, by his Excellency's Command.*

Robert Livingſtone.

The Examination of *Joachin Lebert*, a *French Man* of *Canada*, and Native of *Mont Royal*, taken before his Excellency *Benjamin Fletcher*, at *Albany* the 4th of *October*, 1692.

THat he lived at *Prerie de lay Magdelain*. That it is 60 Leagues from *Mont Royal* to *Quebeck*. That Mr. *de Cellier* is Governour of *Mont Royal*. That there is 2000 men carrying Arms in his Government, Souldiers and Inhabitants. That the Town of *Mont Royal* is incloſed with Stockadoes. That there is 53 pieces of Canon, Braſs and Iron, eight Companies of Souldiers, unequal in number, 50 men being the moſt.

That the Fort of *Magdelaine* contains 23 Families, 400 men in Arms, 2 pieces of Canon, and 5 Patteraroes. There is 200 men in the Indian Fort, called, *Ganawagne*. That there is ten Men of War arrived at *Quebeck*, from *France*, laden with Amunition, & that he ſaw the ſaid Ships. That he hath been taken 43 days, and ſays, that the day before his being taken he being at Mr. *Celliers* houſe, he ſaw a Canow arrive there from Mr *Le Count*, ſent to Mr *Cellier* to demand the Collers of Beeds, which are uſually preſented at the concluding a Peace, the which occaſioned him to ſay there was Ambaſſadours coming to treat a Peace.

Upon

Upon the Objection made, That there could not be ſo many People in *Canada* he ſays, that the two *French men* that were ſent to *York* ſome time ſince, being now at *Canada*, did inform Mr. *Le Count*, that the Engliſh had aſſembled all their Nations, with a deſign upon *Canada*, which obliged Mr. *Le Count* to raiſe all the men he could poſſible, which was that Number he ſaid. And ſays, he knows nothing more.

His Execellency *Benjamin Fletcher*'s Speech to the *Indians* at the State-Houſe in *Albany*, *February* 25, 1692.

BRETHREN,

IT is not unknown to ſome of you, that I came laſt *October* into theſe parts upon no other occaſion than to view the Fronteers, and put them in the beſt poſture I could, to ſecure us and you, from the Attempts of the *French* and their *Indians*, our Enemies and yours. And in order to this I ſent a ſupply of Amunition, Artillary, and Chriſtian Souldiers, ſufficient to prevent any Inſult from our Enemies, and it had the effect I expected, for they durſt not face the weakeſt of our Garriſons. I came now for your Relief, and have loſt no time; the ſame day that I had an account from hence that our Enemies were in this Country, I put my ſelf on board a Sloop, and brought with me 150 Chriſtian Souldiers, beſides Volunteers, and arrived here before I could be expected; I then immediately marched to *Schenactady*, from whence I ſent you ſupplies of 200 and odd men, Amunition, Proviſion, *&c.* with which thoſe that joyned you before, under the Command of Major *Schuyler*, might have ſecured an entire Victory, and prevented the *French* and their Indians from any poſſibility of getting back to their own houſes, but it has pleaſed God to order it otherwiſe. I had alſo 200 Chriſtians more upon their march, who arrived here, and would have been a conſiderable Reinforcement to us, but the Action being over, I commanded them back to their former Reſidence, till further Orders. It is obvious to me, and I believe to you all, that this Calamity is fallen on you by your own faults. I could never ſuppoſe my Brethren, the *Mohaques*, would be ſo ſupine and careleſs, as to ſuffer the *French*, and their Indians, to enter their Caſtles without the leaſt Reſiſtance. Theſe men that have an Enemy near, muſt ſleep with Arms in their Hands, and one eye open, that is, they muſt keep Scouts and Spyes, ſo as never to become a prey to their Enemies, by their own negligence. I muſt adviſe you, that for the future, you keep ſtrict watch, ſo that I may have timely notice of the Enemy's motion, and you will then ſee how eaſily they will be defeated.

I hope it is now apparent to you, that the great of King of *England* is ready to apply his Arms for your defence, when you conſider, that in a very few days I am come perſonally to your Aſſiſtance, with near 400 Chriſtian Souldiers. I have had the Honour to bear Command under the great *King of England*, my Maſter, where I have ſeen the *French* fly before his Victorious Arms; and laſt Summer it pleaſed God to add to his Victories, by the defeat and deſtruction of their Fleet, in which moſt of their Ships were burnt or ſunk.

I came now in great haſte, and brought no Preſents with me, but deſign (by the bleſſing of God) to be with you at the beginning of Summer, to give you ſomething to wipe off your Tears for the Brethren that are lately loſt, to renew the antient Covenant Chain, and to give you further Aſſurances of the Great King of

 England's

England's Favour, and of my own Readineſs upon all occaſions to appear as his Servant, for your Protection againſt our Enemies and yours.

My preſent care now is, to provide for the *Mohaques* Nation, about which I have given my directions to Major *Schuyler*, who will appoint them a place for their Reſidence; I have alſo ordered ſome Corn for their preſent ſupport, which they will receive from him. I muſt add, that it concerns your Honour & Reputation to make ſome brisk attempt upon our Enemies, and this with what ſecrecy and expedition you can, that thoſe People may ſee you retain the antient Courage of your Anceſtors, and I do not queſtion but God will give you ſucceſs by a ſevere Revenge on our Enemies and yours.

I am informed, that your Young Men have killed the Horſes of ſome Chriſtian Souldiers, who were upon the ſame ſervice with you (it is not Brotherly) and I deſire for the future, you will take care to prevent ſuch Outrage, that the antient Covenant Chain may be preſerved inviolably on your parts, as it will be on the part of my Maſter, the great King.

To conclude, I muſt tell you, that I doubt there is ſome falſe Brother among us, who keeps intelligence with our Enemies, concealing their deſigns, and expoſing ours; if you have one French man among you, he will be true to his Country by betraying you. I have order'd you ſome Bread and Bear, and deſire you will drink the Healths of my great Mr. and Mrs the Victorious King and moſt Illuſtrous Queen of *Great Brittain*, *France* and *Ireland*, and all their Majeſties Territories in *America*; and ſo bid you farewell.

The Anſwer of the Five Nations, viz. *the* Mohaques, Oneydes, Onondages, Cayouges *and* Sinnekes, *To his Excellency* Benjamin Fletcher, *Captain General and Governour-in chief of their Majeſties Province of* New-York, *&c. in* Albany *this* 25*th of* February, 1692. Sadeganaktie, *Sachim of the* Onondages, *Speaker. Interpreted by* Hille, *the Interpreteſs.*

Brother Cayenquirago, which ſignifies a great ſwift Arrow, a Name the five Nations have given his Excellency, becauſe of his ſpeedy arrival here, with ſo many Men for their Relief, when the Enemy had fallen upon the *Mohaques* Country.

WHen we arived at *Schenectady*, after our march againſt the Enemy, you was pleaſed to deſire us to come hither, where we heard you, *Great Swift Arrow*, ſpeak, and participated of your Favours, we acknowledge that the Enemy, the *French* of *Canada* have fallen upon our Brethren, the *Mohaques*, and deſtroyed their three Caſtles, which we can attribute to nothing elſe but their not hearkening to the *great Swift Arrow*'s good Advice, which was to keep good Guard and out Scouts.

We return you, *Brother great ſwift Arrow*, our hearty Thanks for your care in providing for the *Mohaques*, that they may not ſtarve, nor be in want in this extremity.

Brother, great ſwift Arrow, You propoſe to us the attacking the Enemy in their Country, to ſhew them that we have not loſt the Courage of our Anceſtors; we return you our hearty Thanks for your good Encouragement, for we are in a manner drunk with the Blood lately ſhed by them. It is not uſual for us, while we are in that grief and anxiety, as now we are, to proceed to revenge our ſelves of the Enemy; you have loſt your Blood as well as we, there ore that Blood ought to be revenged unanimouſly by both ſides.

Brother, Great Swift Arrow, You recommend us to go and attack the Enemy where

where they are at home in *Canada*, but you are acquainted with us of old, that it hath alwayes been our Cuſtom, firſt to bewail & condole the Death of them killed by the Enemy; for we are all one Heart, one Blood, one Soul; nevertheleſs we deſign to go out and to fall upon the *French*, but we muſt firſt ſecure our Caſtles, ſince we know, that the Governor of *Canada* is intended to ſend out a conſiderable party. but whither we know not.

Brother, Great Swift Arrow, While you preſs us to go and attack the Enemy of *Canada* by Land, we expect, according to the many Promiſes and Engagements made to us, to hear of a conſiderable Force to go with great Guns by Sea. that the Enemy might be aſſaulted both ways, and ſo over-come; we preſs this the harder, becauſe a great part of our ſtrength is now broke, and therefore take it not amiſs that we puſh this point of taking *Canada* by Sea, ſince its impoſſible to be done by Land alone

Brother, Great Swift Arrow, We return you our hearty Thanks. that you are ſo ready to aſſiſt us upon any occaſion, and for the good advice to be watchful, and keep out good ſcouts and ſpyes; it is probable, that we would have done a great deal more damage to the Enemy had we been ſo well provided with all ſorts of Amunition, as the *Indians* of *Canada* are; but ſome of our men have Guns, and no Powder nor Ball, and ſome but Bows and Arrows, as Major *Schuyler* ſaw, when we came up to him; but the Governour of *Canada* ſupplies his *Indians* with all ſorts of Arms and Amunition, which we found now when we engaged them.

We pray you, *Great Swift Arrow*, to have a careful Eye over us, ſince this party of the *French* that has deſtroyed the *Mohaques* Caſtles, is but part of his ſtrength, he is working with the *Ottawaws* and *Dowaganhaes Indians*, where he has a great Magazeen, and ſupplies them with all ſorts of Amunition, and we fear that that force will come down upon us ſtill.

Brother, Great Swift Arrow We return you thanks for remembring our dead, and that you will condole their death, when you come up in the beginning of Summer, but you can expect no Return from us, being in ſo mean a capacity and condition.

Brother, Great Swift Arrow, You inform us of the great Victory that our Lord of Lords (meaning the great King of *England*) has got upon the *French*, the common Enemy at Sea, which is admirable, and all the Nations are heartily rejoyced at it, and we hope that the great God that has his Seat above the Heavens, will give the ſame ſucceſs to our great Lord of Lords Arms in this part of the World, over his and our Enemies, the *French* of *Canada*.

We pray that you would be pleaſed to acquaint our great Lord of Lords, who lives over the great great Lake, of our mean Condition, and what poſture we are in, and how eaſy it is to deſtroy *Canada*, if all our great Lord of Lords ſubjects in theſe Collonies would unite and joyn together, with ſome Ships that carry great Guns. which our great Lord of Lords can eaſily ſpare us, after this late Victory over the *French* at Sea.

We deſire that you would be pleaſed to order a Smith to be with us in our Country to repair our Arms, that we may defend us from the *French*.

His Excellency replyed, That he hoped they were ſufficiently ſatisfied of his readineſs to aſſiſt them, and that the Force the *French* had now ſent was the moſt they could make; and if they would but keep out ſcouts, and advertiſe his Excellency timely of the Enemies coming, his Excellency does not doubt, with the ſtrength he has in his Province, to deal with the Governour of *Canada*, and all his Power.

The Governour granted their Requeſt of the Smith to be in their Country to repair their Arms.

Propoſals

Propoſals made by four of the chief Sachims of the five Nations, to his Excellency Benjamin Fletcher, *in* Albany *the 26th of* February, 1692.

Brother, Great ſwift Arrow,

WE are come to acquaint you, that one of our men has laſt night in a drunken fit, killed an *Indian* that came over from the *French*, at which we are much concerned, and therefore come to ſee how our *Brother great ſwift Arrow* reſents it.

We deſire that you would be pleaſed to prohibit the ſelling of Rum while the War is ſo hot, ſince our Souldiers cannot be kept within Bounds, if they be drunk.

Brother great ſwift Arrow, We anſwered your Excellency's Propoſals yeſterday, but had not time to conſult with that deliberation as we ought, and if therefore there be any thing omitted, or if we failed of our duty, we beg that you would be pleaſed to pardon that omiſſion; for we muſt declare in behalf of all the Nations, that we are ſingularly obliged to you, *Brother great ſwift Arrow*, for your ſo extraordinary diſpatch and ſuddain arrival here for our Relief, with ſo conſiderable a Force, the like never having been done before, whereby we ſee your readineſs and allacrity to help and aſſiſt us. And we do alſo return you thanks for leaving your directions with Major *Schuyler* to take care of the *Mohaquas* Nation. We are thankfull for your kind expreſſions, to be ſo ready to come for our Relief, and that you warn us to come and acquaint you as ſoon as we ſee the Enemy a coming a far off, not doubting of your Power to protect us, ſiuce we have ſeen a ſufficient proof of that already by this late Expedition.

Brother great ſwift Arrow, We do engage to make a narrow enquiry as ſoon as we come into our Country, about the *French* Priſoners, who we ſupect may betray us: we have had two bouts with the *Onedeys* about the Prieſt *Milet* that is among them, and we intend to try the third time.

We deſire that you, *Brother great ſwift Arrow*, may come up as ſoon as the Bark is looſe upon the Trees, ſince we have a deſign upon the Enemy.

We forgot to anſwer you in that buſineſs about the Young men killing the Horſes. we acknowledge, its not Brotherly, but very ill done, and as ſoon as we come into our Country we will take ſuch methods that it may be prevented, by finding out them that have done it, cauſing them to make Satisfaction.

His Excellency replyed, that he was much concerned that they ſhould exerciſe their Arms one againſt another, while there is an Enemy in the Field, and hopes they will for the future endeavour to prevent ſuch Irregularities: That they may be now ſufficiently convinced how ready the Arms of the great King of *England* is to ſuccour them; & that his Excellency, for his own part will never ſpare to expoſe his Perſon for their ſecurity. That the Rum ſhall be prohibited upon their Requeſt; and that the moſt he requires of them, is to be vigilent and careful, and not ſuffer themſelves to be ſurprized, and then they need not fear the *French*.

To

To his Excellency *Benjamin Fletcher*, Captain General and Governour in Chief of their Majesties Province of *New-York*, Vice-Admiral of the same.

The Humble Address of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of *Albany*.

May it please your Excellency;

WE are extreamly sensible of your Excellency's special Care, not only for the Safety and Security of your Excellency's Government in general, but in particular for the extraordinary Regard taken for this City, being the utmost Frontier thereof, seated near One Hundred and Fifty Miles up in the Country, whilest the same was attacked by the Enemy of *Canada*, who had surprized and burnt the three Castles of the *Mohaques*, killed divers of their fighting men, and lead in Captivity upwards of 130 Women and Children, and that your Excellency should within two days after notice received from hence, make that dispatch as to be here so suddainly with 300 men, and sufficient Provisions and Stores of War for our immediate Relief, which was more than ever could be expected in this Winter Season.

We therefore out of a deep sence of your Excellency's unparralleled Affection to and Care for us, cannot but ~~entertain our Lives mighty obliged to your Excellency~~, and beg of you to accept our Unfeigned Thanks, assuring your Excellency, as we shall never forget your extraordinary care of us, so shall we ever admire and beg the continuance of your Excellency's benigne Government over us; and since the *Mohaques* Nation is wholly dispersed by the Enemy's burning all their three Castles, and our Farmers live straging up and down the Country, in great danger to be cut off by the skulking *Indians*, We pray that your Excellency in your Wisdom will be pleased to order some convenient place where the Remnant of said Nation may be convened together, and fortified for any attack of the Enemy, and that the Farmers may be ordered to fortifie themselves in Companyes together, that the Enemy may not have an advantage of them.

And we humbly beg your Excellency to believe, we are always ready to venture our Lives and Fortunes for their Majesties Service, the Defence of this Province, and with all chearfulness and allacrity shall endeavour, when-ever it lies in our Power, to demonstrate our true Affection to your Excellency in particular, and to approve our selves,

Your Excellency's most Dutiful, And most Obedient Servants,

Peter Schuyler, *Mayor*,
L. vinus V. schaick, *Alderman*,
Rymen Barentse, *Assistant*.

Dirk Wessells, *Recorder*,
Evert Banker, *Alderman*,
Johannis Roseboom.

The

The Houſe of Repreſentatives for the Province of *New-York*, *Wedneſday A. M. March* 22. 169$\frac{2}{3}$.
Ordered,

THat the Thanks of this Houſe be given unto his Excellencys for his favourable Speech, and his Care of the Frontiers of this Province, by the great Diſpatch he made in His Perſonal Appearance there, upon the late Invaſion of the *French*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Weſſells*, Mr. *Pell*, Mr. *Kipp*, Capt. *Whitehead*, Mr *Ruſſand*, Mr. *Theuniſſen*, Mr. *Tuthill*, and Mr. *Barnes* do wait upon his Excellency and Council with this Meſſage.

By Order of the Houſe of Repreſentatives,

James Graham, Speaker.

FINIS.

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B. F.
P. 14.

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from Col. Nicholls

New York
1693
An Acct of the Actions
of the Honble upon his
Maty's Land Invasion

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